

AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1-27 have been previously canceled. Please cancel the following claims without prejudice: 29-36, and 39-43. Please amend the claims and add new claims as indicated in the following claims list:

Claims 1-27 (canceled).

Claim 28 (currently amended). A data storage apparatus, comprising:

a host device;

a first storage media having a tape cartridge form factor and including a hard disk drive for storage of data;

a second storage media having the tape cartridge form factor and including a length of tape for storage of data;

a picker configured to move the first storage media and the second storage media; and

a ~~first~~-docking device in communicative linkage with the host device and adapted to receive the first storage media and the second storage media from the picker.

Claims 29-36 (canceled).

Claim 37 (currently amended). The data storage apparatus of claim ~~36~~28 wherein the ~~form factor of a tape cartridge~~ form factor is selected from the group consisting of Digital Audio Tape (DAT), Digital Data Storage (DDS), Digital Linear Tape (DLT), and Linear Tape Open (LTO).

Claim 38 (currently amended). The data storage apparatus of claim ~~36~~28 wherein the ~~robotic gripper/picker~~ moves the first storage media and the second storage media between an isolatively stored position and a communicatively linked position.

Claims 39-43 (canceled).

1 Claim 44 (new). The data storage apparatus of claim 28 wherein:

2 the first data storage device is a disk cartridge; and

3 the second data storage device is a tape cartridge.

4 Claim 45 (new). The data storage apparatus of claim 28 wherein the docking device
5 comprises:

6 a docking interface adapted to communicatively link the host device with the
7 first data storage media when the first storage media is received by the docking
8 device; and

9 a tape read/write device adapted to communicatively link the host device with
10 the second storage media when the second storage media is received by the
11 docking device.

12 Claim 46 (new). The data storage apparatus of claim 45 further comprising a
13 receptacle defined by the docking device and configured to receive the first storage
14 media and the second storage media, wherein the docking interface and the tape
15 read/write device are located substantially within the receptacle.

16 Claim 47 (new). The data storage apparatus of claim 45 further comprising:

17 a first receptacle defined by the docking device and configured to receive the
18 first data storage media, wherein the docking interface is located substantially within
19 the first receptacle; and

20 a second receptacle defined by the docking device and configured to receive
21 the second data storage media, wherein the tape read/write device is located
22 substantially within the receptacle.

1 Claim 48 (new). A data storage method, comprising:
2 providing a docking device which defines a receptacle;
3 placing a disk cartridge into the receptacle;
4 performing a read/write operation on the disk cartridge in response to placing
the disk cartridge into the receptacle;
5 placing a tape cartridge into the receptacle; and
6 performing a read/write operation on the disk cartridge in response to placing
7 the tape cartridge into the receptacle.

8 Claim 49 (new). The data storage method of claim 48 further comprising providing
9 the disk cartridge and the tape cartridge with a common tape cartridge form factor.
10

11 Claim 50 (new). A data storage apparatus comprising a docking device that defines
a receptacle, wherein:
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13 the docking device is configured to communicate with a host device; and,
14 the docking device comprises:

15 a docking interface located substantially within the receptacle and
16 adapted to communicatively link the host device with a disk cartridge when
the disk cartridge is placed into the receptacle; and,

17 a tape read/write device located substantially within the receptacle and
18 adapted to communicatively link the host device with a tape cartridge when
the tape cartridge is placed into the receptacle.
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20 Claim 51 (new). The apparatus of claim 50, and further comprising an automatic
21 cartridge handling system configured to selectively place into the receptacle, and
22 remove from the receptacle, the disk cartridge and the tape cartridge.

23 Claim 52 (new). The apparatus of claim 50, and further comprising a host device
24 communicatively linked with the docking device, wherein:

25 communicative linkage of the disk cartridge with the host device is established
when the disk cartridge is received into the receptacle; and,

communicative linkage of the tape cartridge with the host device is
established when the tape cartridge is received into the receptacle.

1 Claim 53 (new). The apparatus of claim 50, and further comprising the disk cartridge
2 and the tape cartridge, wherein the disk cartridge and the tape cartridge adhere to a
3 common cartridge form factor.

4 Claim 54 (new). The apparatus of claim 53, and wherein the common cartridge form
5 factor is a tape cartridge form factor.

6
7 Claim 55 (new). The apparatus of claim 54, and wherein the tape cartridge form
8 factor is selected from the group comprising: Digital Audio Tape form factor (DAT);
9 Digital Data Tape form factor (DDT); Digital Linear Tape form factor (DLT); and
10 Linear Tape Open form factor (LTO).

11 Claim 56 (new). A data storage apparatus, comprising:

12 a tape cartridge;

13 a tape drive configured to receive the tape cartridge;

14 a read/write device supported on the tape drive and configured to perform
15 read/write operations on the tape cartridge while the tape cartridge is received by the
16 tape drive;

17 a disk cartridge that comprises a cartridge interface;

18 a docking device configured to receive the disk cartridge; and,

19 a docking interface supported on the docking device and configured to
20 communicatively link with the cartridge interface while the disk cartridge is received
21 by the docking device.

22 Claim 57 (new). The apparatus of claim 56, further comprising a host device
23 communicatively linked with the read/write device and with the docking interface.
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1 Claim 58 (new). A data storage apparatus, comprising:

2 a disk cartridge that comprises a cartridge shell, a hard disk operatively
3 supported within the cartridge shell, and a cartridge interface mounted on the
4 cartridge shell;

5 a tape cartridge, wherein the tape cartridge and the disk cartridge adhere to a
6 common cartridge form factor;

7 a docking device that defines a receptacle;

8 a docking interface supported on the docking device;

9 a read/write device supported on the docking device; and,

10 a host device communicatively linked with the docking interface and with the
11 read/write device, wherein:

12 the disk cartridge is communicatively linked with the host device by
13 way of the cartridge interface and the docking interface when the disk
14 cartridge is received by into the receptacle; and,

15 the tape cartridge is communicatively linked with the host device by
16 way of the read/write device when the tape cartridge is received into the
17 receptacle.

18 Claim 59 (new). The apparatus of claim 58, further comprising an automated
19 cartridge handling device adapted to selectively place the disk cartridge and the tape
20 cartridge into the receptacle.

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24 -- End of Amendments --

25 (Continued on next page.)